

St. John the Evangelist



Established 1866

**20 Church Street
Hopkinton, MA 01748**

**Telephone: 508-435-3313
for all parish offices
Fax: 508-435-5651**

**E-Mail: stjohnshopkinton@verizon.net
Web Page:
www.stjohnhopkinton.com**

WELCOME TO NEW PARISHIONERS

Please introduce yourselves. We hope to know and serve you. We hope you become an active part of our Parish Community.

PASTOR

Rev. Richard E. Cannon
508-435-3313x201
rec55xp@outlook.com

DEACON

Deacon Anthony C. Sicuso
508-435-3313x206

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

508-435-3313x208
Mary Pawela, 1-6
Debbie Lysik, 7-10
Ken Lysik, 9 & 10

SUNDAY MASSES:

Saturday 5:00 PM
Sunday 8:00 AM, 10:00 AM and 6:30 PM

WEEKDAY MASSES:

Monday through Friday at 9:00 AM
Saturday 8:00 AM

HOLY DAY MASSES:

See inside bulletin for Holy Day Mass schedule

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:

Saturday 8:30-9:15 AM in the lower church

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM:

Second and fourth Sundays of the month at 11:30 AM
Please call for information

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE:

Arranged at least 6 months in advance

ORGANIST

Bernadette Nadeau

PARISH "NEWS" DEADLINE

All copy must be submitted in writing no later than Monday noon. (Holiday weeks may require a longer lead time.)

ST. JOHN'S ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

For those that need a little help,
please call: 508-435-3313x207



And this is the verdict, that the light came into the world, but people preferred darkness to light, because their works were evil. For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come toward the light, so that his works might not be exposed. - Jn 3:19-20

Readings for **NEXT** Sunday, March 21, 2021:
 Ez 37:12-14/ Rom 8:8-11/ Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 [7]/
 Jn 11:3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45



SATURDAY, MARCH 13

5:00 PM Lucille White

SUNDAY, MARCH 14

8:00 AM Parishioners of St. John
 10:00 AM Mary Jo Duffy (living birthday)
 6:30 PM Special Intention

MONDAY, MARCH 15

9:00 AM For the coming triumph of the Immaculate Heart of Mary

TUESDAY, MARCH 16

9:00 AM Matthew O'Leary

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 17

9:00 AM Tim Sullivan

THURSDAY, MARCH 18

9:00 AM Patrick Cross

FRIDAY, MARCH 19

9:00 AM All the Holy Souls in Purgatory

SATURDAY, MARCH 20

8:00 AM Catherine Sullivan
 5:00 PM The Zocchi and Dzerkacz Families

SUNDAY, MARCH 21

8:00 AM Parishioners of St. John
 10:00 AM Elissa, Katherine, and Frank Ruccia
 6:30 PM John and Pdraig Daly

Divine Mercy Prayer Group

There will be a holy hour of Divine Mercy **every Monday from 6:30-7:30PM in the lower church.** All are welcome.

Holy Hour for Conversion of Sinners

There is a holy hour here at St. John's parish for the conversion of sinners on **Thursdays at 6:30PM in the lower church.**

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Easter Sunday.....April 4
 Confirmations.....May 1 & May 6

The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be celebrated 8:30-9:15AM in the parish center
NEXT Saturday, March 20.



St. Patrick's Day

At all Masses **THIS** weekend, we will have a special blessing in honor of St. Patrick, the patron saint of the Archdiocese of Boston. Additionally, shamrock plants will be distributed after Mass.

2021 Annual Catholic Appeal

The Boston Archdiocese's Catholic Appeal provides necessary funding for the more than 50 ministries that serve our parishes, schools, and communities, helping us all live our faith together. You can offer your support by going online to bostoncatholicappeal.org to make your gift. Thank you for your support!

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

During Lent we will have Stations of the Cross and Benediction every Friday evening beginning at **7PM in the upper church.** Join us as we engage in a Lenten pilgrimage to the Cross with Jesus.

LENTEN CONFESSIONS

In addition to the regular Saturday morning confessions from 8:30-9:15AM, confessions will also be heard **Mondays, March 22, and March 29, 7-8PM** in the parish center.

THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD

Thursday, March 25

Mass for the sanctity of life at **7PM in the lower chapel**

Holy Hour for the Sanctification of Priests

March 18 at 7PM

On the **third Thursday of every month at 7PM** in the lower chapel, we will be offering a Holy Hour for the Sanctification of Priests. This is something recommended by the Congregation of the Clergy and, in this our day and age, sorely needed. This secular age of ours presents some unique challenges to the Church and to Her ministerial priesthood. The current priest shortage adds to the stress that many priests feel and can be a challenge to their spiritual life and pastoral service. Thursday of Holy Week our Lord instituted the Holy Eucharist and priesthood, it is an ideal day to pray for priests before the Blessed Sacrament. The Holy Hour will consist of: adoration; the rosary; litany and prayer of petitions; silent prayer and benediction. "During that month I met with many holy Priests, and yet I saw that even though the sublime dignity of Priesthood raises them higher than the Angels, they are still but weak and imperfect men. If holy Priests, whom Our Lord in the Gospel calls the salt of the earth, have need of our prayers, how much more the struggling and the lukewarm?"

--St. Therese of Lisieux, The Story of a Soul, chap. VI

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament follows the 9AM Mass in the lower church every Friday, beginning with the Litany to our Blessed Mother. The Chaplet of Divine Mercy is recited at 11:45AM followed by Benediction. Please feel free to drop in for a visit.

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

WELCOME NEW PARISHIONERS

If you are new to the Parish, please introduce yourself. We want to know and serve you. We hope you will support your parish with your prayers, your presence and your talents. Please call the Parish Office (435-3313x203) to register.



REMINDERS:

Monday, April 5, 7PM: Gr. 9 Zoom class
Sunday, April 11, 5PM: Gr. 10 Zoom class

St. John's Bible Study

Because of the Covid-19 restrictions regarding social gatherings, our Parish Bible Study has gone virtual. We meet **every Tuesday evening at 7:30PM** for one hour via Zoom. We are studying the Sunday readings under the direction of Fr. Conrad. Come and join us. If you wish to receive the link and be on our participant list, send your email request to rusoire@aol.com.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

Thank you to all the parishioners who have been supporting the St. Vincent de Paul Society's mission of helping Hopkinton families in need. Following a busy January and holiday season, we are looking for help. We can use cash donations and \$30-\$50 grocery store food cards to be given out at Easter. Checks can be made out to the St. Vincent de Paul Society and mailed or dropped off at the church office. Grocery store cards can also be left at the church office. Again, we are so thankful for all your past and future help!!

Grade 2 Mini Retreat

Pick up materials **March 15 to March 18** in Parish Hall Room 1. Parent Zoom meeting on mini retreat—**Sunday, March 21, at 11:30 AM.**

Knights of Columbus

Lenten Food for Families Food Drive

March 13-March 28

The Knights of Columbus Bishop Rice Council 4822 is sponsoring a food drive to support the Hopkinton Food Pantry maintained by Project Just Because. Thanks to your generosity and participation, last year's virtual food drive was a huge success. The pandemic continues and our national and local economies have not yet rebounded from the devastation of the Covid 19 pandemic. Many of our friends and neighbors continue to be in distress. Food insecurity affects 1 out of 8 Massachusetts residents. The Project Just Because Food Pantry of Hopkinton is continually challenged to meet the ongoing needs of our community, and they are running critically low on food and supplies. Your local Knights of Columbus are asking for your assistance and continued generosity with a virtual food drive. **Kindly give what you can. No amount is too small!** Please make out your check to *Project Just Because* and put in the memo section: *K of C 4822 FFF Food Drive*. You can either put the check in an envelope marked *K of C Food Drive* in the regular collection basket at the back of St John's or mail it to: St John the Evangelist, 20 Church Street, Hopkinton, MA 01748, ATTN: K of C Food Drive. Thank you so much for any assistance that you can provide!

LENTEN SCHEDULE

DAILY MASS (lower church)

MONDAY—FRIDAY 9:00 AM
 SATURDAY 8:00 AM

STATIONS OF THE CROSS AND BENEDICTION

FRIDAYS 7:00 PM

RECONCILIATION (parish center)

SATURDAYS 8:30-9:15 AM
 MONDAY, March 22 7-8PM
 MONDAY, March 29 7-8PM

February Collections

	2/6 - 2/7	2/13 - 2/14	2/20 - 2/21	2/27 - 2/28	Ave.	Chge +/-	Chge +/-
Head Count	245	238	261	318	265.5	13.5	(9)
					Total		
In Seat	2,773	3,010	3,339	2,570	11,692		
Mail-in	1,770	3,074	2,343	670	7,857		
Electronic	1,897	1,897	1,897	1,897	7,586		
Total	6,440	7,981	7,579	5,137	27,135		
Prior Yr.	8,449	8,449	8,449	8,449	33,796		
	(2,010)	(469)	(871)	(3,313)	(6,661)		
	-24%	-6%	-10%	-39%	-20%		
Prior Mo.	8,676	8,676	8,676	8,676	34,703		
	(2,236)	(695)	(1,097)	(3,539)	(7,568)		
	-26%	-8%	-13%	-41%	-22%		

Note: Prior Mo. Normalized for 4 weeks for comparison

MARCH 14, 2021

CROSS ROADS

By Deacon Tony

**2Chronicles 36:14-16, 19-23; Psalm 137: 1-6;
Ephesians 2: 4-10; John 3: 14-21**

In 2 Chronicles the people mocked God's messengers, despised God's warnings, and scoffed at God's prophets. Consequently, they became prone to their enemies, were defeated, and those that survived were subjected to decades of captivity and exile in Babylon. Psalm 80 tells us of their sorrows, and their hopes. Psalm 81 gives us further insight: "But the people did not heed my voice and Israel would not obey, so I left them in their stubbornness of heart to follow their own designs." The people were the authors of their own weakness and ruin. But God's love and mercy always prevails. At the suitable time, God delivered his people when he inspired King Cyrus of Persia to set them free.

In Ephesians and in John's gospel we see the epitome of God's preference for salvation, and his love for humanity. Rich in mercy, "God so loved the world that he gave us his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might...have eternal life." God sent his Son, his Christ, to free all humanity from captivity to sin. Christ too was rejected and mocked by many; but it is through his life, death, and resurrection that we are saved when we have faith in him. But real faith must be lived, because "Faith without works is dead" (James 2:26). Christ opened the door to salvation to everyone who obeys God's commands: loving and serving him by loving and serving one another.

There are similarities between what happened in 2 Chronicles and today. God has been banned from our schools. God's law is being ignored as the moral foundation of our country, governmental behavior, deliberations, law, and life. The false gods of secularism, scientism, and statism are taking hold. We have virtual relationships, virtually limited religion, false and twisted virtual morality. Are we to be the authors of our own ruin? The existential, moral, and ethical dangers are not virtual! They are real!! We are the Church militant. We must fight for light, life, humility, generosity, forgiveness, justice, and more! Our weapons are the grace of God, the Church and her Sacraments, the Rosary, prayer, sacrifice, and a faith that is demonstrated by our good works. We are not to be "virtual" followers of Christ. We are called to be "virtuous" followers of Christ by how we live, and how we care for one another. We may be mocked, despised, and scoffed at. But as we move toward the Light of God, he will give us what we need to persevere on the cross-filled road to salvation.

